MERLIN II LINEPRINTER



Notes and suggestions for Merlin II lineprinter operation

The contents of the display after you have pressed DEF L are irrelevant to the LP ON function. The result in the display after pressing DEF L is also irrelevant (unless it is ERROR, in which case CLear and press DEF L again). The other functions of DEF L are unaffected. If you use one of these functions you will, at the same time, activate the printer if it is connected and if it is itself on.

It is necessary to key DEF L to activate the lineprinter whenever you switch the computer on after having switched it off. If you leave the computer to switch itself off then, when you switch on, it will come back just as you left it.

If the display shows ERROR 8, it indicates a printer communication problem. It is probably a power fault. If the paper feed works, you have power. If you see ERROR 8 when there is no printer, switch the computer off and on. (This occurred because you disconnected from the printer without having actually switched the computer off.)

With the printer activated, the computer does not stop when it prints a result. A consequence of this is that keying DEF S wipes the previous fix immediately - whereas without the printer, the computer stops after DEF S and waits for you to press ENTER which gives you a chance of changing your mind.

On Merlin II version MM, the operation of DEF B differs slightly from the description in the Merlin II manual and drift is in memory G, not J. Earlier versions of Merlin II can be upgraded.

When you need to change a lot of the basic data, such as at the beginning of a voyage, deactivate the printer while you set up DEF A. Then press DEF L and list the data with DEF A.

If you are doing private calculations and you wish them to be printed you activate the printer with SHIFT ENTER.

MERLIN II NAVIGATION COMPUTER LINEPRINTER OPERATION

These procedures apply to the Merlin II printer and to Sharp CE-123P and CE-126P printers. The navigation computer must be a Merlin II version MM or later.

For information on paper and batteries see overleaf.

Always switch off the computer and the printer before connecting or disconnecting. If this is not done the equipment could be damaged.

Learn how to use your Merlin II (see instruction manual page 10) in its main navigational roles before you try operating with the printer. The sample printout here consists of the first sights and dead reckoning from the extended exercise on page 59 of the manual.

To activate the lineprinter press DEF L. The display flashes LP ON. To deactivate, switch the computer off and on.

To get any results, the printer's switch must be ON, its batteries must have sufficient charge and the thermal paper must be loaded.

With the printer activated, the answers appear on the paper instead of in the display, and the computer does not stop when it prints a result. Otherwise operation with the printer is the same as without it. To interrupt printing press the computer's BRK/ON key. If the printer's operation surprises you, read this paragraph again. Meanwhile make sure you know where the BRK/ON key is.

With the lineprinter deactivated (ie DEF L has not been keyed), the printer will still print numbers you enter but not the answers. If you don't want any paper output, turn the printer's switch to OFF or disconnect the computer. (Often it will suffice to turn the printer's switch to OFF but occasionally the computer will refuse to work with the switched-off printer attached.)

Dead reckoning, Morning sun sights

-	
DEF D	LOG 1067.6
	1.6 -7% 0 75 T **DR REPLACED**
	31.219 S 105.047
1	LOG 1072.
	4.4 -7% @ 75 T **DR REPLACED**
	31.208 S 105.093
	L05 1075.2
	3.2 -7% 0 75 T TACK **DR REPLACED**
- 1	31.2 S 105.127
DEF B	SET 311 DRI 0.6
	145. 5.5 T CRS 147 : +2
	T SPD 4.9: -11%
DEF Z	DR.LAT S -31.200
	DR.LON E 105.127
	LOG - 1075.2 LOG COR -11 %
	LOG COR -11 % COURSE 145
	SPEED 4.9
DEF D	L06 1077.5 2.3 -11% 0 145 T
	DR REPLACED
	31.217 S 105.140
	LOG 1082.5
	5 -11% 0 145 T **DR REPLACED**
	31.254 S 105.170
DEF S	MORNING SUN **START SIGHTS**
DEL 2	1:30DY 95 PLAN.
	1:30DY 90 SUNL
,	7 24.552 H 37.37
	94 INT A -1.2
1	2:B0DY 90 SUNL
	T 0.5631 H 37.53
-	94 INT A -0.3
	3:BODY 90 SUNL
	T 0.5808 H 38.14
	93 INT A -0.1
	4:30DY 90 SUNL
	7 1.0012 H 38.4
	93 INT A -0.5
	5:80DY-90 SUNL
	T 1.0144 H 38.59
	93 INT A -1.2
4.	6:BODY 90 SUNL
DEF N	5 038, NP 24.55
	31.253 S 105.162
	NP PREC 0.8 PREV 20.43
	SET 273 DRI 0.1
	BR REPLACED
	93 RHUMB 523.2 4 DAYS 10.47
	96 GCIRC 523

Star identification / Sight computation / Fix / Current

	Star Identificati	ion / Sign	t com	putation	/ Fix / Current
DEF A	MO.YEAR 11.1989				
	DAY 27				8: STAR 21 V
	CLCOR + 0.0004				7 21.0214
	EYE 3.1 ;	n i			H 58.55 218 INT A -1.1
	INDEX COR -3.5 DR.LAT S -31.260				9: STAR 21
176	JR.LON E 105.080	E.		_	7 21.0322
	LOG 1066	- 30			H 58.47
	LOG COR 0 % COURSE 80				218 INT A -0.1 10: STAR 21
	SPEED 5.5				T 21.0455
	DEST. S -32.000				H 58.34
	DEST. E/115.300				218 INT A -0.7 11: STAR 21
DEF H	-				21.0541
DEI II	AZ -0	21. 150.			н 58.27
	50	24.			218 INT A -1.6
100	SHA 134 DEC -63				12: STAR 21 12:BODY 95 PLAN.
	AZ 24	60.		100	T 21.1298
	SHA 178 DEC 11	23.		794	ALMANAC 21.0000
	27	220.			281.308
6	21	59.			22.549
2	SHA 265 DEC -52 AZ	773			2.7 H 28.51
*	JUPITER	330. 29.			329 INT T 4.0
-	SHA 261 DEC 23	271	9		13:802Y 95 PLAN.
DEE C	1				T 21.1312
DEF S	**START SIGHTS**				ALMANAC 21.0000 H 28.44
	1:30DY 90 SUNL 1: STAR 50				328 INT T 4.2
-	2. 0147. 00	20,4342			14:30DY 95 PLAN.
	Н	23.56			T 21.1406
* *	148 INT A -6.6		*	•	ALMANAC 21.0000 H 28.37
	2: STAR 50	20.4508			328 INT T 3.3
_	ă.	24.06			15:30DY 95 PLAN.
	148 INT A -6.4	7	1.20		7 21.1521
	3: STAR 50	00 4645			ALMANAC 21.0000 H 28.3
	H H	20.4615 24.14			328 INT T 4.8
	148 INT A -6.1				16:30DY 95 PLAN.
	4: STAR 50			DEE E	DAWN FIX
	1	20.4739	/	DEF F	15 038,FIX 20.43 31.222 S 105.030
	148 INT A -6.7	24.23			FIX PREC 1.1
	5: STAR 50		-		PREV 11.3
	5: STAR 24				SET 311 DRI 0.6
	- 1	20.5156			**DR REPLACED** 94 RHUMB 534.8
	56 INT A -2.1	22.04			4 DAYS 1.14
	6: STAR 24			-	96 GCIRC 534.6
St	Ī,	20.5302			4 DAYS 1.12
90	55 INT A -2.8	22.15			110 E -31.466 S SET 311 DRI 0.6
	7: STAR 24			1 10	80. 5.5
	e T	20.5444			T CRS 75 : -5
	H	22.24			T SP0 5.1: -7%
	55 INT A -11.8 8: STAR 24)_			- 10°
DEF X	*REJECT*	UT.		DEF Z	DR.LAT S -31.222
	7: STAR 24				DR.LON E 105.030
	To the second	20.5709	-		LOG 1066
	55 INT A -1.3	23.		9-	LOG COR -7 % COURSE 75
NI.	55 IN A -1.3				SPEED 5.1

THERMAL PAPER

Thermal paper tape is available in packets of five rolls where the Merlin II printer is sold, from Sharp dealers (product code EA1250P) and from Tandy outlets (PC3 thermal printer paper). You may also cut up fax paper.

Installation of paper roll

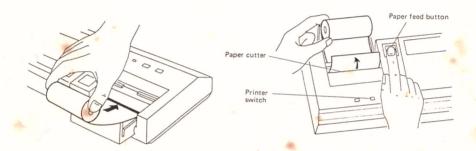
Trim the leading edge of the paper cleanly; any curve or crease near the beginning of the paper makes insertion difficult.

Tighten the roll. A loose roll may cause irregular paper feeding.

Tip back the hinged paper cover and insert the edge of the roll into the slot above the metal strip in the paper compartment.

Gently press the paper into the slot and hold down the paper feed button.

If you wish to remove paper, sever it in the paper compartment and pull the remnant out the top. (Don't pull the paper backwards.)



Tips about thermal paper

Printing on thermal paper may fade if exposed to bright light or high temperatures for long periods.

Do not paste thermal paper with a solvent-type glue.

Thermal paper should not remain in extended contact with a PVC sheet, such as some plastic covers.

Thermal paper should not come in contact with ammonia.

Thermal paper is sensitive to oil from your fingers. Try to avoid touching it. When loading the paper, hold the roll on the edges.

PRINTER SPECIFICATIONS

Type: thermal dot, 24 characters per line

Speed: 0.8 seconds per line

Paper: thermal 58mm (2.28 inches) wide

Power: 2.5W, 4.8V DC from built in nicad battery.

Charging: 8-9V DC input using 2.1mm plug with centre negative.

An AC charger is supplied with the printer. Chargers for 240V and 110V AC and for 12V DC are available.

MERLIN II LINEPRINTER - GENERAL INFORMATION

This information would mostly also apply to the Sharp CE-123P and CE-126P printers which are powered by penlight batteries.

PRINTER OPERATING CONTROLS

Connector

To avoid possible damage to the unit caused by static electricity, never touch the 11 pin connector with your fingers. Always switch off both printer and computer before connecting or disconnecting.

Printer switch

Printout and paper advance are only possible with the printer switch ON.

Setting the switch to OFF will generally allow you to use the computer in a non-printing role but sometimes you may find the Merlin II goes on strike and to use it you have to unplug it from the printer. Always switch off both printer and computer before plugging or unplugging.

Remote switch

This is an interface function. It doesn't play a role with Merlin II.

Low battery light

The low battery indicator lights when the battery needs recharging. If the battery is extremely weak, this indicator will fail to light.

With this light on, no printing or paper advance is possible. The computer will show ERROR 8 if it tries to communicate with the printer and fails.

Paper feed

With the printer ON, pressing this button advances the paper forward.

Adapter

This jack is used to connect the charging unit. The other jacks are interface connections and cannot be used with Merlin II.

CHARGING

The Merlin II printer is powered by a rechargeable nickel cadmium battery.

When new, or when it has been stored unused for some months, recharge the battery before use. It will take 15 hours or more. The "low battery" indicator will not light if the battery is extremely low.

Use the charging adaptor supplied. Chargers are available for 240 V AC, 110 V AC and 12 V DC sources.

Before connecting, turn the printer switch OFF. Leave the printer OFF unless you need to use the printer (which will slow down the charging).

For best results, do not print when partially charged unless the charger is connected.

When the printer batteries are charged they take over supplying power to the computer. The computer never powers the printer.

Disconnect the charger from the AC or 12V DC source when not in use as it will use some power even when not connected to the printer.

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